GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2460
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2000
CITIZENSHIP MIGRANTS FROM PAKISTAN
MOHAN RAWALE;PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI;RASA SINGH RAWAT;RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of migrants from Pakistan in 1965 and 1971 residing in Gujarat have been demanding the Indian citizenship;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the number of such refugees, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for delay in rehabilitating them;

(e) whether the Government propose to grant Indian citizenship to these migrants from Pakistan; and

(f) if so, the time by which the Indian Citizenship is likely to be granted to them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): The Government of India is not in receipt of any such demand.

(b): Does not arise.

(c)&(d): According to available information, nearly 3 lakh persons crossed over from Pakistan to India during the Indo-Pak conflict of 1965. Most of these persons returned to their original place of residence after the cease-fire. The Indo-Pak conflict of 1971 resulted in the migration of 53,000 persons from Pakistan to Rajasthan and Gujarat. The work of rehabilitating these persons has almost been completed.

(e)&(f): The consideration of applications for the grant of Indian citizenship, forwarded by the respective State Government, including from persons who migrated from Pakistan, by the Central Government in accordance with the provisionsof the Citizenship Act, 1955 is an ongoing process.